a mobile communication device, having:

a) communication means for transmitting and receiving information signals to and from said base station via radio waves;

b) processing means for compressing and encrypting the information signals transmitted to said base station by said communication means, and for decompressing and decrypting the information signals received from said base station by said communication means;

c) input/output means for a user to interact with said mobile communication apparatus; said input/output means comprising a keypad, display means, a speaker, and a microphone; and

d) memory means for storing information signals from said processing means; said memory means including a removable semiconductor memory;

whereby said mobile communication device is operable to receive said information signals from said base station automatically and periodically.—

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Final Action dated October 23, 2001. The claim amendments included herein are merely clarifying amendments and are not meant to change the intended scope of the claims. Thus, the amendments present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal, and should be entered in due course. Moreover, the amendments are manifest, requiring only a cursory review by the Examiner, thereby providing additional ground for their entry.

Claims 7-18 were pending in the application. In the Final Action, claims 7-18 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 7 and 13 have been amended. Claims 7-18 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 7-18 are in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§103 Rejections

Claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakajima et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,769) in view of Stewart (U.S. Patent No. 5,592,555).

Claims 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakajima and Stewart and further in view of Kariya (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,897).

Claims 12 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakajima and Stewart and further in view of Bowen (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,606).

Applicant submits that the independent claims (claims 7 and 13) are patentable over Nakajima, Stewart, Kariya and Bowen.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a mobile communication device and an information providing system including such a device. Each of the claims specifies that the mobile communication device receives information signals from a base station via radio waves, and that "said [mobile communication device] is operable to receive said information signals from said base station automatically and periodically." The advantage of Applicants automatic/periodic feature is that certain information can be automatically communicated at times when communication "traffic" on the system is light, e.g. early morning,

thereby reducing the burden on system resources. Supporting disclosure for Applicant's automatic/periodic feature can be found in the specification at, for example, page 17, line 19 – page 18, line 4.

Neither Nakajima, Stewart, Kariya nor Bowen discloses the automatic and periodic reception of information signals by a mobile communication device, and therefore can not realize the advantages of Applicant's invention. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 13 are patentable over Nakajima, Stewart, Kariya and Bowen - taken either alone or in combination - on at least this basis.

Claims 8-12 depend on claim 7. Since claim 7 is believed to be patentable over the cited references, claims 8-12 are believed to be patentable over the cited references on the basis of their dependency on claim 7.

Claims 14-18 depend on claim 13. Since claim 13 is believed to be patentable over the cited references, claims 14-18 are believed to be patentable over the cited references on the basis of their dependency on claim 13.

Applicant submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather,

these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicant's undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 7 and 13 have been amended as follows:

—7. (amended) A mobile communication apparatus, comprising:

a) communication means for transmitting and receiving information signals to and from a base station via radio waves; said base station further transmitting and receiving information signals to and from a service provider through a public line network;

b) processing means for compressing and encrypting the information signals transmitted to said base station by said communication means, and for decompressing and decrypting the information signals received from said base station by said communication means;

c) input/output means for a user to interact with said mobile communication apparatus; said input/output means comprising a keypad, display means, a speaker, and a microphone; and

d) memory means for storing information signals from said processing means; said memory means including a removable semiconductor memory;

whereby said communication apparatus is operable to receive said information signals from said base station automatically and periodically.—

—13. (amended) An information providing system, comprising:

a service provider for transmitting and receiving information signals through a public line network;

a base station connected to said public line network for transmitting and receiving information signals to and from said service provider; and

a mobile communication device, having:

a) communication means for transmitting and receiving information signals to and from said base station via radio waves;

b) processing means for compressing and encrypting the information signals transmitted to said base station by said communication means, and for decompressing and decrypting the information signals received from said base station by said communication means;

c) input/output means for a user to interact with said mobile communication apparatus; said input/output means comprising a keypad, display means, a speaker, and a microphone; and

d) memory means for storing information signals from said processing means; said memory means including a removable semiconductor memory;

whereby said mobile communication device is operable to receive said information signals from said base station automatically and periodically.—